Application No. 10/549,380 Docket No.: 04242/0203345-US0

Response to Office Action mailed March 21, 2008

LISTING OF CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this

application.

Claim 1 (original): A structural sandwich plate member comprising: first and second outer

metal plates; a core of compact plastics or polymer material bonded to said outer plates with

sufficient strength to transfer shear forces therebetween; and a plurality of relatively lightweight

forms disposed within said core; wherein said lightweight forms are made of a fire resistant

insulating material.

Claim 2 (original): A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 1 wherein each

of said lightweight forms comprises a barrier impermeable to the liquid form of said plastics or

polymer material between said fire resistant insulating material and said core.

Claim 3 (original): A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 2 wherein said

barrier comprises an elongate hollow tube which is filled with said fire resistant insulating material.

Claim 4 (original): A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 2 wherein said

barrier comprises a coating which has been applied to blocks of said fire resistant insulating material

by spraying or dipping.

Claim 5 (original): A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 2 wherein said

barrier comprises a sheet material wrapped around said fire resistant insulating material.

Claim 6 (original): A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 5 wherein said

sheet material is selected from the group comprising metal foil, felt, mineral cloth and plastics or

polymer sheet materials.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A structural sandwich plate member according to any one

of claims 1, 2 or 4 wherein said fire resistant insulating material comprises mineral wool.

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Claim 8 (previously presented): A structural sandwich plate member according to any one of claims 1, 2 or 4 wherein said fire resistant insulating material has a density in the range of from

30 kg/m3 to 200 kg/m3.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A structural sandwich plate member according to any one

of claims 1, 2 or 4 wherein said fire resistant insulating material has an ignition point and a melting

point each greater than 1000°C.

Claim 10 (original): A method of manufacturing a structural sandwich plate member

comprising the steps of: providing first and second outer metal plates in a spaced-apart relationship

with a plurality of lightweight forms located therebetween; injecting uncured, unfoamed plastics or

polymer material to fill the space defined between said outer plates and said lightweight forms; and

allowing said plastics or polymer material to cure to bond said outer plates together with sufficient

strength to transfer shear forces therebetween; wherein said lightweight forms are made of fire resistant insulating material.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 7

wherein said fire resistant insulating material has a density in the range of from 30 kg/m3 to 200

kg/m3.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 7

wherein said fire resistant insulating material has an ignition point and a melting point each greater

than 1000°C.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A structural sandwich plate member according to claim 8

wherein said fire resistant insulating material has an ignition point and a melting point each greater

than 1000°C.

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